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## THE PLOTTER

SOAP BOX

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S  
USERS GROUP  
NEWS LETTER

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VOLUME 6

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NUMBER 2

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FEBRUARY 1988

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EDITED BY: DICK WAGNER  
CHAIRMAN: MICHAEL CARVER  
V/CHAIRMAN: BILL DUNLOP  
SECRETARY: JACK ARMSTRONG  
TREASURER: ROD GOWEN  
PR OFFICER: BOB EVANS  
LIBRARIAN: JAMES EDWARDS  
\*\*\*\*\*

### MEETING

The FEBRUARY meeting will be:

on: FRI., FEBRUARY 12, 1988

at: 7:30 P.M.

in: COMMUNITY ROOM

FAR WEST FEDERAL S & L

OREGON CITY SHOPPING CENTER  
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Greetings from your new chairman. I only hope I can fill the shoes left by our last chairman, Syd. He did an excellent job during his tenure! THANKS, Syd.

We have a BIG year ahead of us. The big item on the agenda, if of course, the 1988 3rd Annual NW T/S Fest. There are grand plans for this year's fest and it can be grander than last year's, but it will take an effort from all of us. August may seem like a long time away, but there is a lot of work to be done before then. We need your input for ideas to make this project a success. If you missed last month's meeting you missed out on a great brainstorming session. We will need more at the next meeting, so please attend!

Another CCAT/S project is our own swap meet, to be held at our March meeting! Start cleaning our closets, basements and attics. . .

If I am going to fulfill my duties as chairman, I will need input and support from all of the members. Feel free to drop me a line or call. I will also make a concerted effort to log on to Rod's BBS on a regular basis, so that is another way to drop me a note or share an idea.

Those who have been attending the meetings will know how exciting this next year is going to be. So, call a member you haven't seen for awhile and spread the excitement! If you haven't attended a meeting, give another member a call and say hello. We all need each other to survive and SURVIVE we will. If we made it this far we can make the rest of the journey with ease.

Remember, this is DUES season, and we do need those dues to carry out our mission!

*Sinclairly -- Michael E. Carver*

by Jack Armstrong

The new chairman, Mike Carver, had the January meeting to order at 7:45 and notified the group that our own D. Lewis was 75 years young on this date. Under Old Business Mike called on Ken Lutes to report on Mini-Fair progress. Ken reported that he has sent letters to VISTA, ZX APPEAL, and SEATUG and asked for info about other user groups that might be interested in participating. He also asked for member input and group and individual exhibits. Jack Armstrong suggested that maybe we could tie in D. Lewis' video project and the Mini Fair by filming the preparations for later broadcast on Public Access. D. later explained his progress on that project. Mike noted that we need to get info on location possibilities and Rod commented that we also need to set a firm date and provide a budget. A general discussion followed. Rod felt that we would need to set a small fee for table space in addition to a modest entry charge. Tim thought we should open the Fair to support services and other dealers. D. Lewis noted that Magrathea Books had closed and the inventory went to Tech Books on Division and 35th. He gave the opinion that other 280 groups might be interested in being a part of the Fair. More discussion followed. Mike said that the committees need to start action now. Rod will do flyers, Bill Dunlop will cater refreshments and his wife may do a group tour for wives, etc. who may not want to spend all their time at the Fair. A general discussion followed. Bill felt that kids should be welcome at the Fair and we should urge other groups and dealers to provide flyers for the Fair even if they are not present. D. Lewis noted that there was a computer consultants organization that might be of help finding a location. Mel said that his Magic club had used facilities at the Cosmopolitan Club near the Coliseum; Gaylen Bench volunteered to check on it. After a general discussion it was determined that the 2nd week in August will be

Continued on page 6

It is sure hard to get back into the normal after spending a week on the Island of Maui, Hawaii. Daytime temperatures in the upper 70s and mid 80s and nighttime low 70s. What a week!

As I missed the January meeting I can't fall back on the goings on Friday night but I sure get a good idea of what is coming up from reading the articles from our new Chairman Mike Carver, Secretary Jack Armstrong, and Treasurer Rod Gowen. I just cannot see why our membership drops off with all of these exciting events coming up. Lets face it, members, every year is better than the last in terms of new equipment, new programs, and new activities.

I have been working more with the Epson compatable printer (or is Epson compatable with Panasonic?) purchased last fall (a Panasonic 1080i model). Because I wanted to do more than LLIST, LPRINT, word processing, or being limited to just the instruction manual, I have been building a library of books on dot matrix printers. At times in reading magazine articles I run into a nice program that requires a large printer and the author states that he/she used a "so and so" printer and then blithely puts in the printer codes without any explanation of what the codes are to do. This makes it rough to convert to my printer, almost like trying to convert TRS80 BASIC to SINCLAIR BASIC. So, now I have a fair representation of printers covered in these books.

Panasonic 1080i manual  
Olivetti manual  
Epson JX-80 Color Printer (2 manuals)

Getting The Most From Your Printer (Epson compatable)  
Epson, Epson, Read All About It!  
How To Use Your Radio Shack Printer

Minute Manual For The Dot Matrix Printer  
Epson PC & Printer Guide For Personal Financial Planning  
Graphics For The Dot Matrix Printer (460 pages)



## BITS & BYTES

by: ROD GOWEN

Heard any TS related news lately? Did you get any information in the mail from other users, user groups, or vendors that may be of interest to our readers? If so, why not share it with us? We need all of the help that we can get. Please send any info that you might have to: Rod Gowen, C/O CCAT/S, 1419 1/2 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045, or, phone in at: 503/655-7484, 10 AM- 10 PM weekdays. I know that the entire user group will appreciate it!

NEW OFFICERS-WELCOME!! Mike, Bill and Jack. We wish you all the best in the coming year! If our January meeting is any indication, it should be a VERY good year indeed!

WEYMIL CORP.-as we reported last time as being out of the TS business may not be! As we have now heard conflicting reports. If we get more info on this, we will pass it along. We don't want to put someone out before they quit!

THE 3RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL/GREAT NW TS MINI-FAIR!-How's that for a mouthful?!? I think that this will be the official name for the upcoming (August) Mini-Fair to be held in Portland, OR, in August this year. Plans are well under way for this event and all we need now is a LOT OF SUPPORT! We need speakers, user groups and vendors to attend and/or support this effort. We want this to be THE EVENT of the west coast for all Sinclair/Timex users west of the Mississippi. More info elsewhere in this issue.

SWAP MEET-is set for the March meeting. It was decided to start the main business meeting at 6:30 PM, an hour early and start the Swap Meet at 7:00 PM and run it to 10:00 PM. Be sure to attend and clean out your closet of unused equipment so that you will have room for all of the "new" used equipment that you are going to bring home! There are plenty of tables.

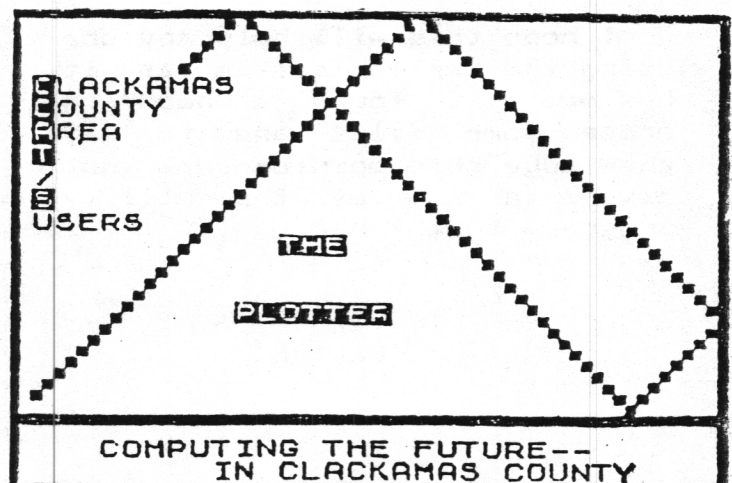
ERICK JOHNSON-who's in on the planning of WINTERFEST '88, informs us that he will have 25 2068 SCLD chips up for grabs at the Fest. If you are attending and sign up for the drawing, you could win the right to purchase one of these much sought after chips for only \$25.00. You must be there to be eligible for this drawing.

RMG ENTERPRISES-reports that the RMG BBS is being donated for use as the "official" MINI-FAIR BBS. The General Interest board can be used and there will be a MINI-FAIR Base which is taking the place of the now defunct AERCO base. This is where you will be able to keep up with the plans for the Fair. If you have any ideas, comments or just want to look in on it, please call: 503/656-8072 between 8 PM and 10 AM Pacific time on weekdays and 24 hours/day from 8 PM Fri. 'till 10 AM Mon. from now until the Mini-Fair. Settings are 8-1-none.

DENNIS JURRIES-our "founding father" is now lost to our cause. It seems that the PC bug got him and now he is infected to the point of no return. We are sorry to loose him, as he was the driving force that got our club up and running and helped to keep it going for the past 5 years.

I can't beleive that I have filled a column again! Check in next time!

Later....RLG



## LARKEN LINES

by: ROD GOWEN

#5 and counting! We hope that it keeps up! As always, if I do not receive enough input on this column, I will be forced to discontinue it. If you have any new ideas to submit concerning the Larken Disk operating system, please send it to THE PLOTTER in care of Rod Gowen. ALL ideas are considered for publication, and this column is being reprinted in the new TS UP DATES MAGAZINE out of Florida.

I am going to turn it over to GAYLEN BENCH of our own local group this time. He sent me the following changes that he made to the MOVE program furnished on your original Larken disk/tape. It is being printed here exactly as I received it, take it away Gaylen:

\*\*\*\*\*

Rod, if the following changes are made to the Larken move program that comes with the Master Larken disk when you buy the system; it will add two more opinions to the program.

By choosing number five, you will be given the choice of doing a catalog of any of your drives, copying the catalog to the 2040 printer, and then you have the choice of erasing any one of the files listed by entering the complete file name and pressing any key.

I hope this will help any one using the Larken system as it has me. I found a need to erase some files and to my knowledge this opinion was not given in any of the utility programs that I had.

Gaylen

```
150>PRINT AT 19,0;"'5'      Erase
File"
190 INPUT "Enter 1, 2, 3, 4, or
5 "; LINE a$
219 IF a$="5" THEN GO SUB 500
220 GO TO 10
500 CLS : PRINT "This utility g
ives you the      opption of
doing a directory  of any Driv
e, doing a copy    of that Dir
ectory and erasing any file li
sted from that     disk."
520 INPUT "(DRIVE:0 1 2 3 4)""
RETURN TO MAIN MENU: '5'";A: CLS

521 IF A=5 THEN RETURN
525 PRINT #4: GO TO A
530 PRINT #4: CAT """,: INPUT "(
COPY? ";C$
535 IF C$="C" OR C$="c" THEN CO
PY : LPRINT """,
540 INPUT "(ERASE FILE? ENTER N
AME:)" ;N$
550 IF N$="" THEN GO TO 520
560 IF LEN N$>9 THEN GO TO 540
570 PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY TO ERA
SE FILE: ";";TAB 10;N$: PAUSE 0
580 PRINT #4: ERASE N$,: GO TO
500
9500 REM ** Save to Disk **
9510 PRINT #4: SAVE "MOVE/E.B1"
LINE 9700
9520 PRINT #4: SAVE "MOVE.C1"COD
E 32000,1000: RUN
```

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Thank you Gaylen.

Next month I am planning to talk about the other Larken DOS systems that are available: RAMEX, AERCO and OLIGER. I have used 2 of the 3 systems and we have 1 member, Dick Wagner, who uses the other. I know that I promised this for this issue, but I am sure you will forgive me.

Watch for it!

## STRING\$

STRING\$ is a BASIC command used by some BASIC languages and is not the same as STR\$. Knowing its meaning is necessary for SINCLAIR BASIC replacement.

STRING\$ is used to create strings made up of the same character in graphics, as for borders. You define the character and the desired number of repeats.

SINCLAIR BASIC replacement for 10 B\$=STRING\$(32,"-") is :

```
100 LET T$="": FOR N= TO 32: LET T$=
T$+"-": NEXT N: LET B$=T$.
```



# THE 3RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL/GREAT NW TS MINI-FAIR

by: ROD GOWEN

Well, the plans are laid, the hopes are high and the work has just begun! With RMG ENTERPRISES and TIME DESIGNS MAGAZINE as co-sponsors and CCAT/S users group as the hosts, we are hoping for a huge success. It can be just that, provided we have YOUR support!

Plans so far call for the event to take place in the first or second weekend in August, 1988. It is to last 2 days, a total of 16 hours. That' 9 AM to 5 PM both days.

We have plans for 12 seminars that will run from 45 minutes to 1 hour in length. All we need now are 12 speakers! Subjects will hopefully include such things as disk drive systems, printer support, 2068 add-ons, expansion products-ram and eprom, computer modifications, software development, hardware development, programming-machine code and basic as well as other languages, telecommunications and bulletin board systems for ALL TS computers. If any of our loyal followers in the NW or elsewhere would like to give a short talk on any one of these or related subjects, PLEASE, contact us! We cannot pay, but we will guarantee that you will be seen by a LOT of people, as the seminars will be video taped by RMG for sale to those who can not make it to the Fair and for those who want a permanent record of what was said.

We are also hoping to video tape some of the preparations for the Fair as well as the main areas and an overview of the Fair itself. This is a project that CCAT/S groups is taking on. The club will then offer the resultant tape for sale. It may be of help to other novice Fair/Fest producers as well as user groups planning a small computer show.

There will be dealer table at \$20.00 for a whole booth. \$10.00 for 1/2 booth. The \$20.00 booth includes 2 tickets. If you require more than 2 people to man the booth, the tickets are \$3.00 each. The \$10.00 non-attending dealer 1/2 booth will allow dealers who cannot make the Fair a chance to "show their stuff". There will be a volunteer from the CCAT/S group to watch the materials sent to be handed out and displayed.

The cost of a User Group booth will be \$10.00 and will also include 2 tickets. More than 2 members of the user group will be at \$3.00 per ticket.

There are also plans for the "computer widows" who may not have as much interest in the Fair as the rest of us computer nuts and may want something different. We have a bus volunteered with a tour bus driver who will run a different tour on each of the 2 days. One day the tour may be up the gorgeous Columbia Gorge to the Bonneville Dam with the scenic tour taking in world famous Multnomah Falls. The second day may be a trip to the Portland Zoo, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) and the World Forestry Center. These tours will be VERY reasonably priced. There are also plans made for the "little ones". Kids will be entertained by a real clown! See! We are thinking of the WHOLE family, not just the computer buff.

As soon as the location is set, we will have a definite date and will pass all such information on to all interested parties.

RMG ENTERPRISES has offered the RMG BBS as the "official" Fair BBS to allow info to be passed on and coordinated. Sort of a central clearing house. Hours for the BBS will be 8 PM to 10 AM weekdays and 24 hours a day from 8 PM Friday until 10 AM Monday. The phone number is: 503/656-8072

Stay tuned to this n/l for more info and SUPPORT your computer, SUPPORT THE FAIR!

## Fat Characters

Last month I sent a listing from my TS2040 printer and I promised to tell you how I made the fat characters.

The routine is only 39 bytes and can be loaded to any available free memory, such as the printer buffer.

Since this newsletter does not allow for long enough columns to comment the listing, I will describe the process here. If you have questions, I will be glad to answer them at the next meeting.

The first four lines perform a block move and copy the ROM character set to FC00h (64512). This is as high in memory as is convenient, without overwriting the UDG's.

The next four instructions place the address of the 'new' character set into the proper system variable locations.

The remaining instructions comprise a loop that moves each row (byte) of pixel information, one bit to the right. It then ORs (adds) back in the original bit locations. See figure 1. The new data is then re-stored to the new character table.

There is no further action needed by you, as the routine creates and tells the system about the new character table.

To use it, LOAD the routine to any available 39 byte area and call it with a RANDOMIZE USR address. Of course, address is the address you LOADED the routine to.

Have Fun!

Syd

### Listing 1

```
010003 FatChars Ld BC,0300h
1100FC          Ld DE,FC00h
21003D          Ld HL,3D00h
EDB0           Ldir
2100FC          Ld HL,FC00h
FD75FC          Ld (IY+FCh),L
FD74FD          Ld (IY+FDh),H
FD35FD          Dec (IY+FDh)
010003          Ld BC,0300h
```

```
7E      Loop    Ld A,(HL)
5F      Ld E,A
CB0F    RRC A
B3      Or E
77      Ld (HL),A
0B      Dec BC
23      Inc HL
78      Ld A,B
B1      Or C
20F4    Jr NZ, Loop
C9      Ret
```

Figure 1

```
Original byte = 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 0
Rotated byte  = 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 0
ORed byte     = 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0
```

Continued from page 2

the best time for the Fair, though we may choose the 1st weekend. Under Old Business a motion was made and seconded that our March meeting will be the time we will have a Swap Meet and those who wish to sell/trade any items should bring them. Under New Business, Melvin Anderson told the group that he is conducting a computer center as a part of his Care-A-Lot day care center and needs any HW or SW he can get. He is using several Sinclair computers. He also needs any volunteer help he can get. Contact him at 659-6689 or 232-7231. Mike commented on an article in the Columbian about the Hebrew University computer system being sabotaged and that they had luckily found it before it wiped out the core memory. Gaylen showed a power supply regulator he built from Bob Evan's plans that were published in the Plotter. He said he would build them for other members for \$15. Rod asked about the club authorizing funds for a banner for the Fair that his talented daughter will make; a motion was made and passed. D. Lewis told the group that Mel is the Librarian for the CP/M group. He also commented that the store at Division and 90th, which carries used computer HW is an interesting place; worth looking into. He scolded this writer for not noting that the swap meet at

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## TRACE: FIND STRINGS

Dick Wagner

So you have tried to sort out variables in a long program to determine what the author is doing and maybe make your own changes. And what about using the same variables for different uses? It gets quite confusing to say the least. This program from "The Timex Sinclair 2068" book will give the line number and statement of occurrence (in the line) of any variable you specify. This program will ignore any variable within quotes. Besides regular and string variables it will locate ":", quotes (press quote key twice), and "\$" (to locate all strings used. You must give the computer the variable as it won't find on it's own each one that may be in a program. To test it out just try it on itself! This looks like another handy utility to add to your library.

```
8005 INPUT "Variable to trace ";
v$: LET l=LEN v$
8010 LET p=PEEK 23635+256*PEEK 2
3636
8020 LET v=PEEK 23627+256*PEEK 2
3628
8030 LET n=256*PEEK p+PEEK (p+1)

8040 LET le=PEEK (p+2)+256*PEEK
(p+3)
8060 LET q=0: LET c=1: FOR j=4 T
O le+4
8070 LET p1=PEEK (p+j)
8080 IF p1=34 THEN LET q=NOT q
8090 IF q THEN GO TO 8170
8100 IF p1=14 THEN LET j=j+5: GO
TO 8170
8110 IF p1=58 THEN LET c=c+1
8120 IF p1<>CODE v$(1) THEN GO T
O 8170
8130 FOR k=1 TO 1
8140 LET p1=PEEK (p+j+k-1): IF p
1<>CODE v$(k) THEN GO TO 8170
8150 NEXT k: LET K=PEEK (P+J+K-1
): IF K=36 OR (K>47 AND K<58) OR
(K>64 AND K<91) OR (K>96 AND K<
123) THEN GO TO 8170
8160 PRINT FLASH 1; INK 1; PAPER
7;n;: PRINT INK 9;TAB 5;":":c;T
AB 10;v$
8170 NEXT j
```

```
8180 LET p=4+p+1e: IF p=v THEN G
O TO 8195
```

```
8190 GO TO 8030
```

```
8195 INPUT "DO YOU WANT ANOTHER
VARIABLE FOUND? Y/N ";A$: IF A$=
"Y" OR A$="y" THEN CLS : IF A$="
Y" OR A$="y" THEN GO TO 8005: IF
A$<>"Y" OR A$<>"y" THEN STOP
8200 SAVE "TRACE"
```

## PUZZLE

Dick Wagner

This is a 4 x 4 square puzzle that needs a programming answer. It is one of those mathematical puzzles that should be solvable by our computers. I first spotted it in SYNC magazine, March 1982, about my first issue. I was hungering for something to try out the ZX 81 with and thought it would be a snap. After all, aren't computers supposed to be able to sort thru numbers, arrange them, and come up with an answer? Well, I have tried it several times since and still don't have a workable program.

The answer to this puzzle MUST produce a sum of 47 across each row and for each column. The sums of the diagonal rows must equal 47 as must the sum of the 4 inner squares. Also the sum of the 4 corner squares must also equal 47. There are 12 numbers to work with, 4 thru 15, and 17 thru 20. The number 16 is not used and the numbers 7, 9, 14, and 17 are not relocateable. The Editor is looking forward to receiving a suitable program to answer this puzzle. Here is your chance to have an original program published in The Plotter. By the way, I have the answer to the puzzle but no program to solve it.

		14	
17			
			9
		7	

Continued from page 6

Rickreal has amateur radio gear to offer. (Sorry, D!) He showed his Mouse Scanner he got at Pac Tel on Stark at I-205. He noted that Rod would have found the recent PC club meeting interesting as they featured BBSers and several SYSOPs were there and then he reported on his TV project. There was a discussion and it was decided that we need a committee to start work on it. The club adjourned at 9:15.

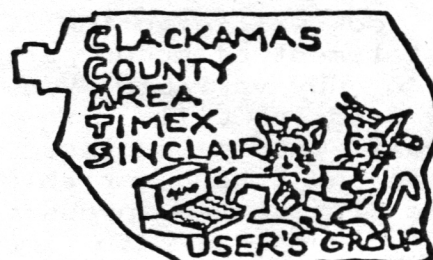
+++++

Continued from page 2

With this library I am willing to help any member with printer code problems as this list of books actually covers many makes and models of popular printers, not just Epson or compatibles.

I have hopes of producing some elaborate borders, printed figures and scenes of various sizes. And there is a program for a puzzle of 4X4 squares using the IBM set of graphic blocks that was interesting to do. How about forms, charts and diagrams? All possible, and without LOW resolution screen dumps. Maybe The Plotter can be spruced up a bit.

-----  
: **WANTED** :  
: LIVE COMMADORE-64 COMPLETE :  
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: PH. 503-266-4712 :  
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